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DD/ST# 1850-69

OEL-254-09

8 MAY 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Science and Technology
SUBJECT: Inspector General Survey of the Office of ELINT

1. Attached is a suggested response to recommendations of the Inspector General's Survey of the Office of ELINT.

2. In general I believe that the Survey and its report have been helpful in improving the organization and effectiveness of OEL. Both during the course of the investigation and afterwards several actions have been taken as a result of insight gained.

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3. A question raised by the IG team but not covered by recommendations deserves some comment - attitudes internal to OEL suggest we are moving too fast in development of complicated collection devices. I have given careful attention to this matter. The negative comments from OEL personnel referred to in the IG survey came at a time when [redacted] training was at its peak and there were "rude awakenings" occurring. We have since gone heavily into computer programmer training and have also taken concrete steps to see that analysis, operation and development aspects are considered in an "over-all systems" approach to any new collection system.

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4. Yet another area left "dangling" relates to OEL's efforts in "special projects" such as [redacted]. The language of the survey could be interpreted as implying that these projects are a result of OEL's own ambition and initiative and that in taking on these efforts we have greatly overtaxed our resources. In this connection I would submit the following:

a. All such special efforts are against highest priority targets and in most cases are undertaken at the request of OSI or FMSAC and always with DD/S&T approval.

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b. The stress put on resources is not all to the bad since in the long run the experience gained increases office capability and flexibility. In any event, special projects are cancelled once the information sought is obtained or when it has been demonstrated that success is not likely. In this regard you will note recent moves to free OEL personnel from [redacted] projects. I do intend to maintain the know-how, contacts, equipment and flexibility within OEL to respond to targets of opportunity in an imaginative and timely manner.

5. On the negative side, although no fault of the Survey team, much material in the report appears to be outdated. Additionally, the Survey's allegation of favoritism by the "front office" to [redacted] is left as an open question. Subsequent to issue of the report, I have again discussed this question with [redacted] but have not been able to elicit further information that would identify source or basis of the reported "widespread opinion" on this matter.

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DD/S&T

Attachment:
Suggested Response
to IG Survey

Concur in Paragraph 6 above:

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D/OEL:GCMiller: [] (8 May 69)

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